

# Townley Declares Trial Unfair; Asks Reversal

Head of Nonpartisan League Begins Fight to Set Aside Conviction for Disloyal Speeches at St. Paul

Supreme Court to Decide

Fate of His Political Party in Northwest Is Thought to Rest With His Appeal

ST. PAUL, July 15.—A jury of farmers has found A. C. Townley and Joseph Gilbert guilty of teaching disloyalty as charged. And friends of Townley, president, and Gilbert, former organizer of the National Nonpartisan League, had believed that the farmer jury would be favorable to their cause.

But now Townley and Gilbert are charging that the trial was unfair, that they were not allowed to present their evidence, and George S. Hoke, their chief counsel, characterized the proceedings as a "yellow paint party." Nonpartisan leaguers throughout the state are confident the verdict will be reversed by the state Supreme Court. On the other hand, opponents of the league declare Townley and Gilbert got what was coming to them for irrational and ill considered speeches in war time.

Few Neutrals in State

It is hard to predict with any certainty what the effect of the conviction will be on the growth of the Nonpartisan League in Minnesota and the Northwest. Only a truly unbiased analytical mind could make the prediction, and such is difficult to find, for every one in the state seems to be for or against the league. Thinkers incline to the belief that among true loyalists the league lost immeasurably by the conviction. If the verdict is sustained by the Supreme Court it will lose still more. Among the radicals and semi-radicals the plea of injustice voiced by Townley and his henchmen will possibly draw some to the league.

The trial of Townley and Gilbert opened at Jackson, Minn., before the District Court June 28. It came to a close Saturday, when the jury returned a verdict of guilty.

The charges stated that Townley, as president of the Nonpartisan organization, permitted the circulation of literature critical of the government and other speakers to make, and he himself made speeches which had the effect of hindering the prosecution of the war, especially regarding the appliance of the draft and the sale of liberty bonds. Testimony of many witnesses was offered concerning speeches made by both Townley and Gilbert as far back as the speech made by Townley at the time of the meeting held in St. Paul by United States Senator Robert La Follette in 1917.

Conviction Is Pending

Testimony for the state hinged on a speech made by Gilbert at Lake Field, Minn., January 23, 1918, during the course of which Gilbert was arrested for alleged disloyal remarks. Townley and Gilbert were given minor sentences for unlawful assembly for their part in this meeting. These sentences are still pending.

Prominent among the witnesses for the defense was Representative J. M. Baer, of Fargo, N. D. He declared the pamphlet issued by the leaders of the league in 1917 setting forth principles showed that the league was "five months ahead of President Wilson's fourteen points."

Townley took charge of his own trial in the closing session. He declared that the winning of the case meant his life and that he preferred to handle it himself.

He declared that he had in any way attempted to hamper the prosecution of the war. The keynote of his defense was that he had carried out a "programme of patriotism, as opposed to profeering."

Trial Long Drawn Out

The extent of the organization and the breadth of its activities caused the trial to drag along for three weeks. The defendants—notably Townley—insisted on giving a mass of proof of their loyalty, much of which was excluded by the court on the ground that it had no bearing on the specific instances presented by the state.

Townley and Gilbert were indicted in the Jackson County court last year, but managed to have the hearing postponed until this year.

No Harvest Help Needed

KANSAS CITY, Mo., July 15.—A warning that Western wheat fields already are overplanted with labor for completing the wheat harvest as far north as the Canadian line was given out today by the Federal Employment Bureau here.

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# Senate Against Confirmation Of Williams

All Republicans and Some Democrats Are Said to Be Determined to Force Defeat of Controller

Cooper Notes Explained

Banker Made "False Statements" About Him, Nominee Tells Committee

WASHINGTON, July 15.—President Wilson's nomination of John Skelton Williams to be Controller of the Currency for a new term of five years will be rejected by the Senate, Republican leaders said definitely to-night. They had heard of no Republican Senator who would vote to confirm Mr. Williams, but knew of several Democrats who would vote to reject the nomination.

The Senate Banking and Currency Committee, which is conducting an investigation of Mr. Williams' fitness for the office, is expected to submit an adverse report on the nomination to the Senate in executive session within the next two weeks.

Mr. Williams opened his second day's defense before the committee yesterday with an attack upon Wade R. Cooper, president of the United States Savings Bank of this city, who opposed his nomination, and Thomas E. Cooper and L. J. Cooper, his brothers, who control a chain of banks in the South. The attack was a detailed elaboration of the statement reflecting upon the management of the Cooper banks, that he said he had sent to one thousand or two thousand bank directors and stockholders in May.

Cooper Letter Explained

"What was your purpose in sending this memorandum to two thousand persons?" Chairman McLean asked. Mr. Williams replied that Mr. Cooper had circulated "false statements" with respect to the Controller's office and the memorandum was intended to offset these statements and show what he was really doing to protect the banks of the country.

"You were not thinking of protecting your office then," Senator McLean suggested, "but merely of safeguarding the stockholders of the banks and the public."

"I am sorry you reached any conclusion that I was attempting to guard my own office," Mr. Williams replied. Senator McLean inquired why Mr. Williams had not sent out the full hearings before the Banking and Currency Committee in February instead of extracts from the hearings and his comments upon them. The Controller said he thought it more effective to give simply the high spots in the testimony.

Letter from Hines Produced

Mr. Williams replied to the Cooper charge that he, as director of finance of the Railroad Administration, had given tacit consent to the payment of excess rentals to the Georgia and Florida Railroad, in which his family is interested, by displaying a letter from the Director General Hines. Mr. Cooper said that it would be useless to discuss a yearly deficit of \$500,000, yet receiving rentals of \$88,000. The Director General said that Mr. Williams had nothing to do with fixing the rental and the railroad had paid \$100,000 a year during the last few years.

He produced a letter from George P. White, president of the General Metropolitan Bank, denying Mr. Cooper's charge that the bank had been discriminated against by Mr. Williams in withdrawing railroad administration funds.

Rich Manning Estate Tied Up by Small Claim

Millionaire Sued by Honors O'Brien Spent Little on Home or Office

Timothy Murray, a lawyer, of 141 Broadway, yesterday tied up the \$254,543 estate of the late John B. Manning until a claim of \$354 which he declared was due him for professional services rendered the dead millionaire is disposed of.

Murray interposed an objection to the Surrogate's Court approving a settlement of the estate until his claim was settled. This automatically tied up an application made for a settlement by Joseph B. Meade and Anna M. Starke, administrators of the estate. It is said to consist of railroad, bank, mining and other gilt-edged securities. Manning called off his engagement to young Miss Honora May O'Brien and figured to a \$1,000,000 breach of promise suit that followed. The suit was finally settled for \$100,000. Manning was in his eighty-sixth year when he died, in April, 1918.

Manning, despite his wealth, maintained an office in 2 Wall Street the furnishings of which were valued at only \$75, according to the accounting. The value of the furnishings of the millionaire's home, at 81 Riverside Drive, is declared to be small. The most expensive item is a piano, valued at \$250. Two oil paintings, entitled "Scenes in Ireland," are valued at \$4.

The millionaire's bathroom contained a music box, valued at \$20. The total value of his house furnishings is given at \$9,015.

Service Men Clients of Defunct Broker Firm

10,000 Soldiers and Sailors Lost Funds in Lilly Smash, Says District Attorney

Soldiers and sailors—10,000 of them—have lost various sums of money through sending their earnings to the insolvent brokerage firm of J. Frank Lilly & Co., 62 Broadway, Assistant District Attorney Rorke said yesterday. Mr. Rorke has notified the Department of Justice and the postoffice officials of the losses, and it is expected they will assist the District Attorney's office in seeking restitution is made to men in the service.

"Very easy," "hard to be cheated," and "tough nuts" were the classification marks set forth on the three lists Mr. Rorke said he found in going over the papers seized by the police in a recent raid upon the broker's offices. The stocks and bonds found among the papers have been turned over to Joseph M. Proskauer, receiver of the firm, of 11 Broadway. The assets are said to be about \$15,000 and the liabilities nearly \$2,000,000. The police are still seeking J. Frank Lilly and F. K. Seltner, partners of the firm.

# Floods in Argentina Kill 1,000,000 Sheep

Part of Buenos Ayres Province Inundated; Rains Heaviest in Years

BUENOS AYRES, July 14.—Government reports show that 1,000,000 sheep and 100,000 cattle have been drowned in floods in the southern part of Buenos Ayres province. The railways and telegraphic communication have been interrupted and several sections in that region have been completely isolated for more than a week from this cause.

The floods were due to a month of the heaviest rainfall ever recorded here.

Army Officer Says Transportation in Front Line Failed

Col. Cowan, at Hearing in Washington, Testifies U.S. Army Was on Last Legs When Truce Was Signed

WASHINGTON, July 15.—American soldiers in France were "of superb spirit, but a bit groggy as an army" when the armistice was signed, a House war investigating committee was told today by Colonel Fred L. Huidekoper, formerly adjutant of the 33d (Illinois) Division.

Colonel Huidekoper said he was astounded by a statement made to him last January 6 by a Colonel Cowan, of General Headquarters, that the transportation situation on the battle front was so bad that the American army could not have kept on a month longer and that if the Germans had not stopped the Americans would have been forced to inspect the 33d Division.

"I naturally assumed that he had ample justification for such a statement," said the witness.

"French officers," Colonel Huidekoper added, "were of the opinion that American troops were not given the shelter and care that should have been given men."

Questioned as to lack of cooperation between the American and British high commands, Huidekoper told of two incidents when, he said, the commander of his division had been called upon to explain why American troops were used by the British, once at Hamel, July 4, 1918, and again on August 9, at Cheppy Ridge. Ten companies of American infantry had been assigned for the Hamel action, but they were withdrawn by General Pershing. Orders withdrawing the other four followed, but too late to keep them out of action.

Huidekoper also criticized the separation of American infantry from the artillery with which it had trained. He said the 33d Division had 5,000 casualties in the Meuse-Argonne battle, and that failure to get better artillery support at the main German defense line increased the division's losses.

"Bungling" by officers also increased the American casualties, the witness said. Replying to Representative Flood, Democrat, of Virginia, Colonel Huidekoper said the American officers failed to profit by the experiences of the British, French and Germans and were "conceited and cocksure." He complained of "queer staff work," also that "General Pershing did not select the ablest staff officers."

Edge Suggests Plan To Build Up Europe

Senator Advises Incorporation of Federal Body to Handle Export Trade

WASHINGTON, July 15.—A thoroughgoing plan for the rehabilitation of Europe with the materials of American mines, mills and factories was proposed to the Senate today by amendments to the Federal Reserve Act introduced by Senator Edge, Republican, of New Jersey.

The amendments provide for Federal incorporation of one or more concerns to handle the composite commercial-financial business of the American export trade. Not only may such corporations exercise the ordinary banking functions, such as discounting and negotiating notes and drafts and dealing in bills of exchange, but they may advance cash to foreign purchasers of American exports on such security as foreign manufacturing plants or similar collateral. Every step of such transactions would be under the supervision of the Federal Reserve Board.

Car Strike Threatened in Nearly All Rhode Island

Workers to Quit Every Line in State, Except Newport, Unless Demands Are Met

PROVIDENCE, R. I., July 15.—As a result of action to-day by the executive committee of the union, carmen employed by the Rhode Island Company, which operates the trolley lines of the entire state, except in Newport, will go out on strike Friday at midnight unless the War Labor Board by that time gives a decision in the wage case now pending before it.

The men demand 75 cents an hour and an eight-hour day.

BOSTON, July 15.—The War Labor Board at Washington was urged by telegram to-day to announce at once its findings in the case of the carmen employed by the Boston Elevated Railway Company in order to avert a strike called for Thursday morning at 4 o'clock if a decision is not reached by that time. The men ask 73½ cents an hour and an eight-hour day.

Daylight Saving Law Will Get New Hearing

WASHINGTON, July 15.—Repeal of the daylight saving law, believed settled by the House yesterday in sustaining the President's veto of repeal legislation, bobbed up to-day at a conference between leaders of the Senate and House Agricultural Committees.

Senate leaders insisted on another hearing by the House on the rider to the agricultural bill to repeal the daylight saving act. The matter will be considered to-morrow by the full House Agricultural Committee.

# Ford Wants New War if League Fails

Continued from page 1

but universal disarmament," said Mr. Stevenson.

"You state in this book that there was a ring trying to drive us into war," continued Mr. Stevenson.

"Can you give us one member of that ring?"

"No."

"Could you then?"

"I don't know that I could."

"So you wrote this without knowing anything about it?"

"Oh, hardly that. I had read some."

"President Wilson was one of those who urged the preparedness which you call 'the ring'?"

"Overpreparedness; I am strong for preparedness now."

"You were not in 1915."

"I thought our preparedness at that time was adequate."

"Do you think now that war is murder?"

"Not for the oppressed."

What was said that he considered professional soldiers—those who made their living out of it—murderers.

"That includes General Pershing," asked Mr. Stevenson.

"Theodore Delavigne, one of Mr. Ford's publicity men."

"I authorized them and I am responsible," said the witness. "Of course, I didn't know what was in them."

"Did you know what was in your widely published page advertisement opposing preparedness?"

"I don't believe I read that. I sent out many letters to make people think without reading them," said Mr. Ford.

"In 1915 you told a 'Tribune' reporter that you had no belief in history, that it was nothing but tradition."

"I think so now more than ever," admitted the manufacturer.

"But you write that 'in all history I cannot find one man who justified war,'" queried the lawyer.

"Mr. Delavigne wrote that."

"That was another of Mr. Delavigne's ideas?"

"Oh, I was responsible."

Says History Is "Bunk"

The witness reaffirmed that, so far as he was concerned, history was "bunk" and music and other arts of no interest.

"Then you confess that 'The Tribune' was right when it called you an ignorant idealist?" persisted Mr. Stevenson.

"Did the editorial say that?"

"Yes."

"Well, I am not ignorant of all things."

"Automobiles, for instance?"

"Yes."

"Well, do you admit that you are an ignorant idealist?"

"No, I do not."

"You admit, then, that you are merely ignorant of many things?"

"Yes."

"Well, let us see, what are the fundamental principles of our government?"

"That is a large order," said the witness.

"Well," continued Mr. Stevenson, "can you change Congress without an election?"

"I think we can change Mr. Newberry," countered the witness amid laughter.

"Then you still wish to be Senator?" asked the lawyer.

"No," answered the manufacturer with emphasis.

Mr. Lucking in arguing an objection stated that the booklet from which Mr. Stevenson read to show that Mr. Ford was opposing the President was composed of articles obtained before the President made his speeches, and therefore could not have been designed to oppose him.

Mr. Stevenson stated that one of the President's addresses on preparedness was made to Congress in December, 1915, while the trial advertisement "Concerning Preparedness" was published in 1916. "Humanity and Sanctity" also was published in 1916.

When the witness was asked by Mr. Stevenson what was the cause of the war of 1812.

Can't Remember the Maine

"I don't know," answered Mr. Ford frankly.

"What was the Civil War of 1861 about?"

"Slavery," smiled the witness.

"And the war with Spain?"

"To free Cuba."

"Wasn't there some act that precipitated this war—the sinking of the Maine?"

"I don't recall."

Mr. Ford said he believed the plan for a league of nations should be adopted, in order to end war for all time.

"Unless we have the league we should prepare up to the hilt for war," said Mr. Ford.

"No war threatens now," said Mr. Stevenson.

"We want to end it now for all time."

"You think there should be a great war now unless we have a league of nations?"

"I think so."

For Preparedness Now

"You think now that preparedness would be an insurance against war, don't you?"

"If it was used immediately to clean up the situation."

"Are you in favor of having a great army now to go over and clean it up?"

"Yes, unless we get a league of nations."

"So if we do not get the league you want this country to go to war again?"

"Do you think to clean it up now for all time?"

In the course of his further examination Mr. Ford said he had no doubt General Pershing would admit that as a professional soldier he had committed many murders.

The subject of the San Francisco preparedness day bomb outrage was brought up by Mr. Stevenson, who sought to establish an analogy between the men who incited the bomb throwing and Mr. Ford's own propaganda against preparedness.

"I am against over-preparedness," said Mr. Ford, and he repeated that phrase six times as his only reply when Mr. Stevenson pressed his question in different forms.

The witness said that if an army had to be built he regarded conscription as the fastest way.

"Do you if a decision is not reached by that time. The men ask 73½ cents an hour and an eight-hour day."

Thought of Entire World

Mr. Stevenson read from a statement by Mr. Ford advocating that the United States take the lead in disarming and remarking that the whole world would follow.

"Well, I meant the world. I was not interested in the United States disarming. I was thinking of the world."

"You wanted our country to lead?"

"I think it would be a good thing right at the present time."

"Did you ever read history?"

"Myself? Quite a little."

"What histories have you read?"

# An objection was interposed and Mr. Stevenson argued to the court:

"The plaintiff charges that he was libeled when 'The Tribune' called him an ignorant idealist."

"I admit I am ignorant about most things," volunteered Mr. Ford.

He qualified his previous testimony by stating that he was beginning to have a little appreciation of art, and as to music, liked the banjo.

Reverting to the subject of history, Attorney Murphy, making an objection, said:

"Adam didn't have any history and I think he got along very well."

"Yes, and Adam got into trouble," added Attorney Weymouth Kirkland, representing "The Tribune."

Mr. Ford was still under direct examination at adjournment and will resume to-morrow.

Says Edsel Ford Got Exemption Because He Was "Presidential Pet"

WASHINGTON, July 15.—Exemption from military service of Edsel Ford, son of the Detroit automobile manufacturer, was the subject of an attack in the Senate today by Senator Sherman, Republican, of Illinois, who said young Ford was "a Presidential pet" and had been saved from service in the army by an abuse of executive power.

The Illinois Senator asserted that, as a member of the committee considering the Ford-Newberry Senatorial contest, the copy of the Ford exemption proceedings, but that the request had been denied on the ground that the hearings were not a public record.

Mr. Sherman said he desired to establish that Henry Ford had been defeated in the Senatorial election because of the "contempt" of the people of Michigan over his son's exemption.

He made a brief address, in which he said he was very grateful for the honor and hoped to live up to the expectations of the Second District, in which he was born and reared and in which he cast his first ballot. It would be his aim, he said, to further all the interests of the party, especially of the district which he represented.

Judge Leon D. Howell, in reply, welcomed the newcomer to the "political family" of the Second District, and predicted higher honors for him in the future.

# Lt. Col. Roosevelt Unanimous Choice For the Assembly

Indorsed as the Republican Candidate in the Second Nassau County District by Two Town Committees

MINEOLA, July 15.—Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., was unanimously indorsed as a Republican candidate for the Assembly from the Second District of Nassau County at a joint meeting of the town committees of North Hempstead and Oyster Bay here to-night.

The committee also informally chose Robert L. Bacon, son of the late Colonel Robert Bacon, as the next state committee man from North Hempstead. The choice will be indorsed at the 1920 primaries. Mr. Bacon succeeds Edward Allen, who has held the post for twenty years.

When informed by telephone of his indorsement, Lieutenant Colonel Roosevelt, who was at Oyster Bay, hastened by automobile to Mineola and there was formally apprised of the committee's action by Byron C. Gould.

He made a brief address, in which he said he was very grateful for the honor and hoped to live up to the expectations of the Second District, in which he was born and reared and in which he cast his first ballot. It would be his aim, he said, to further all the interests of the party, especially of the district which he represented.

Judge Leon D. Howell, in reply, welcomed the newcomer to the "political family" of the Second District, and predicted higher honors for him in the future.

Few persons saw Roman fall. After picking himself up the captain telephoned to Police Headquarters and a truck was sent to carry away the wreckage of his plane.

Falls 750 Feet; Unhurt

Captain Roman Scarcely Bruised When Airplane Crashes

Captain J. H. Roman, of the Brooklyn division of the Aerial Police Reserve, fell in a tail spin at the speedway, Sheepshead Bay, from a height of 750 feet yesterday afternoon. He escaped with scarcely a bruise, jumping from the plane just before it crashed to the ground. The machine was demolished.

Roman was formerly a lieutenant in the army. He has been flying about Coney Island carrying huge signs on the plane advertising the forthcoming games for the benefit of the police fund.

Few persons saw Roman fall. After picking himself up the captain telephoned to Police Headquarters and a truck was sent to carry away the wreckage of his plane.



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